

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A method for receiving a wireless signal, in a computer adapted to operate in a power-saving mode, while the computer is in the power-saving mode, comprising the steps of:

detecting within a computer a wireless signal representing a bit sequence, wherein said wireless signal is targeted for said computer; and

exiting said power-saving mode automatically in response to said detection of said wireless signal.

2. The method of claim 1 for receiving a wireless signal, wherein said computer includes an wireless signal receiver device, and said computer includes one or more status signals indicating whether said wireless signal receiver device is installed and enabled, wherein the step of exiting said power savings mode automatically in response to said detection of said wireless signal, includes the steps of:

determining whether said wireless signal receiver device is installed and enabled by reading said status signals;

exiting said power-saving mode, only if said wireless signal receiver device is installed and enabled.

1 3. The method of claim 1 for receiving a wireless signal, wherein
2 the step of detecting a wireless signal targeted for said
3 computer, includes the steps of:

4 detecting a particular identification tag embedded in said
5 bit sequence.

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1 4. The method of claim 1 for receiving a wireless signal,
2 wherein wireless signal is transmitted through a radio frequency
3 channel.

4 5. The method of claim 1 for receiving a wireless signal,
5 wherein said bit sequence includes a request for said computer to
6 exit said power-saving mode.

1 6. The method of claim 1 for receiving a wireless signal,
2 wherein said bit sequence includes a request to continue
3 execution of a program that is suspended while said computer is
4 in said power-saving mode.

1 7. The method of claim 1 for receiving a wireless signal,
2 wherein said computer comprises a receiving means for detecting
3 said wireless signal, and said computer further comprises a
4 switch for maintaining power to said receiving means while
5 operating in power-saving mode, and
6 further comprising the step of:

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8 setting said switch to maintain power to said receiving means prior to entering said power-saving mode.

1 8. The method of claim 1 for receiving a wireless signal,
2 wherein said computer includes memory for storing bits; and

3 further comprising the steps of:

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5 regenerating some or all of said bit sequence; and

6 storing said some or all of said bit sequence in said memory
7 after said power-saving mode is exited.

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9 9. The method of claim 1 for receiving a wireless signal,
10 further comprising the steps of:

11 processing information conveyed by said bit sequence; and

12 returning to said power-saving mode.

13 10. A computer for receiving a wireless signal while in a power
14 savings mode, comprising:

15 a receiving means adapted to detect a wireless signal
16 representing a sequence of bits, wherein said wireless signal is
17 targeted for said computer; and

1 14. The computer of claim 10, wherein said receiving means is an
2 optional attachment to said computer.

1 15. The computer of claim 10, wherein said receiving means is
2 formed in a device bay cover.

1 16. The computer of claim 15, wherein said device bay cover is
2 an optional attachment to said computer.

17. An computer, comprising:

a receiving means within said computer, for receiving a
signal representing a bit sequence;

a power saving mode within said computer, for selectively
entering and exiting a power-saving mode; and

a detection means within said receiving means, for detecting
a signal targeted for said computer while said computer is in a
power-saving mode; and

a control means within said power savings mode for exiting
said power-saving mode in response to said detected signal.

1 18. The computer of claim 17, wherein at least one power source
2 is disabled while said computer is in said power-saving mode;

3 wherein said receiving means asserts a wake up signal to
4 said power-saving mode control means to indicate said wireless
5 signal is received which is targeted for said computer; and

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8 wherein said power management circuit in response to said
asserted wake up signal enables said least one power source.

1 19. The computer of claim 17, wherein said receiving means is an
2 option card communicatively coupled to said computer through an
option card bus slot.

20. The computer of claim 17, wherein said receiving mean is a
docking station.

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